



E D U C A T I O N S E R V I C E S

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

2006-2007
ILLINOIS
HISTORY EXPO
CONTEST RULES

ILLINOIS HISTORY EXPOSITION

CONTEST RULES

General Contest Rules for All Categories

- Rule #1 Teachers must pre-register their students by completing and returning the enclosed pre-registration form. All registration information, such as category and National History Day status, will remain the same for both the regional competition and the Illinois History Expo. Once the registration is complete that information will stand for both the regional fair and Expo.
- Rule #2 All contestants must be in Grades 6-12. Students in Grades 6, 7, and 8 must enter the Junior Division. Students in Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 must enter the Senior Division.
- Rule #3 No student may participate in more than one entry per category.
- Rule #4 A paper, individual exhibit, individual performance, and individual media presentation must be the work of one (1) student. A group exhibit, group performance, and group media presentation must be the work of two (2) to five (5) students.
- Rule #5 A bibliography is required for all entries in both divisions. Students should refer to any standard bibliographic form such as MLA or Turabian.
- Rule #6 All non-paper entries must be accompanied by a "Summary Statement Form." Judges will not evaluate any entry for the style and grammar in the "Summary Statement Form."
- Rule #7 All entries must show student research on some phase of local or state history. All entries must be student-produced and constructed.
- Rule #8 VCRs, DVDs and monitors will be provided. Any additional equipment that is required must be provided by the student.
- Rule #9 Any sound used with a project must be kept to a level which does not distract any judge from evaluating any other project in the same project area.
- Rule #10 Entry cards are *NOT REQUIRED* at the Illinois History Expo and will be removed prior to the judging contest.
- Rule #11 NATIONAL HISTORY DAY REQUIREMENTS
- A panel of upstate and downstate coordinators with NHD experience will select those advancing to NHD from those who are registered to compete. Be sure to check with the National History Day (NHD) Contest Guide to be certain of all the requirements for NHD. ***Compliance with NHD requirements is the responsibility of the teacher.***

Copies of the NHD Contest Guide have been distributed to all teachers. However, if you need a copy please contact our office.

Students who want their exhibit, performance, media entry, or research paper to be considered for NHD must incorporate the current theme for NHD, and include an annotated bibliography.

Students must have registered for NHD when they registered for their regional history fair. Students cannot register for NHD after the regional history fair.

ALL ENTRIES UNDER NHD CONSIDERATION MUST SHOW HOW THEIR LOCAL, REGIONAL, OR STATE HISTORY THEME RELATES TO THE BROADER CONTEXT OF AMERICAN HISTORY TO BE COMPETITIVE. MAKE ILLINOIS HISTORY UNDERSTANDABLE TO NON-ILLINOIS JUDGES.

Rule #12 A summary statement form answering the following questions must be filled out and accompany all projects at the Regional and Illinois History Expo.

1. Explain the main theme of your entry.
2. Explain why you became interested in researching your subject. What is your favorite part of the project?
3. Explain the stages involved in creating your entry.
4. How much time did you spend working and researching your entry?
5. What did you learn from your research? Did you find any conflicting information about your topic while you were researching? If so, please explain.
6. Explain the project's relationship to Illinois History.
7. Attach a bibliography of the sources you used. Include any oral history interviews. Also list any libraries, museums, or other institutions you may have visited for your project.
8. What is the relationship between your Illinois History entry and the theme of National History Day?

Note: National History Day (NHD) has separate requirements. This form is not to be used in the place of NHD requirements.

Rule #13 Securing the summary statement form & any other property (i.e. props, artifacts, etc.) are the student's responsibility.

Rule #14 All students must adhere to their school's rules and code of conduct in formulating any project and providing its individual parts or artifacts. If you have any questions, request permission from your teacher.

Rule #15 Teachers must select each of the projects they advance to the

regional history fairs in order that those projects best represent their school's efforts. Teachers should hold a school history fair to make this decision.

- Rule #16 A certain percentage of Superior projects will advance from each regional history fair to the Illinois History Exposition. The Education Services Office of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency will determine this number. **All projects receiving a superior will not necessarily advance to the Illinois History Exposition.**

Research Papers

- Rule #1 The text of a Junior Division or Senior Division research paper should be no less than 1,500 words and no more than 2,500 words. The same guidelines apply for National History Day entries.
- Rule #2 The three (3) photocopies of a paper submitted for the Regional Fair satisfy the requirement for the number of papers submitted at the EXPO. Papers in both categories must have a cover sheet including the following information: Title, Student Name, School, Teacher, Grade, and NHD status (indicate whether project is competing for NHD).
- Rule #3 Research papers **must** begin with a single, separate sheet including a Thesis Statement and an Outline.
- The Thesis Statement should be a paragraph of two to three sentences declaring what question or questions you hope to answer in the following paper and what answers you gave to that question or those questions.
- The Outline should contain no more than five headings. Each should deal with a step leading to your conclusion or conclusions.
- Rule #4 All research papers **must** contain an annotated bibliography. Students are encouraged to follow the style found in Turabian's *A Manual of Style for Writers of Term Papers*, or any standard form. Lack of a bibliography will result in **automatic disqualification**.
- Rule #5 An annotated bibliography is distinguished from other bibliographic forms by a brief (often one sentence) explanation of how the source was especially distinctive and useful for the topic on which you have written. It should take the following form:
- Stang, Richard. *The Theory of the Novel in England, 1850-1870*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1959.
- A Systematic, impressive study uncovering "modern" doctrines about fiction in forgotten publications before James.

- Rule #6 Papers must have footnotes or endnotes. Specific information on footnote form is available in Turabian's *A Manual of Style for Writers of Term Papers* or any other standard footnote form is acceptable.
- NOTE: The page numbers that were used must be given in the footnote citation; if reference material came from a vertical file where no page numbers were available, please tell that no page numbers were given.
- Rule #7 Papers can be about the student's own community, region, or the state as a whole. Papers may be submitted on the same topic as *Illinois History* magazine. However, they should be substantially different.
- Rule #8 Papers must be written by only one student and he/she may submit only one paper.
- Rule #9 To aid the local judges, papers should be typed and double-spaced.

Individual and Group Exhibits

- Rule #1 All exhibits must be constructed by the individual/students.
- NOTE: The point of research and planning in the exhibit category is to condense and synthesize the topic into a visual presentation that is self-explanatory.
- Rule #2 An exhibit may contain additional written material, but it must take the form of captions and/or labels, documents, oral history, quotations, etc.
- Rule #3 A group may range from two (2) to five (5) students.
- Rule #4 Exhibit entries should be no more than 40" wide, 30" deep, and 6' high. Any project which does not comply with these sizes cannot receive a "Superior."
- Rule #5 An exhibit must have a bibliography. Students should refer to Turabian's *A Manual of Style for Writers of Term Papers*, or any other standard form, to determine the correct bibliographic form.
- Rule #6 Exhibits must be visual and stationary. The use of media devices, such as tape recorders or slide presentations, must be integral and functional to the project and must not run for more than three (3) minutes. Judges must be able to operate all media devices.
- NOTE: Projects that use media devices which run for more than three (3) minutes will not qualify for a "Superior" rating.
- Rule #7 Students are not allowed to resubmit another student's project or a project that they submitted from a previous year's fair.
- Rule #8 All exhibits must be in place before 10:30 a.m. on the day of the Expo.

Individual and Group Performance Rules

- Rule #1 Students will be allowed five (5) minutes to set up, ten (10) minutes to perform, and five (5) minutes to remove any props after the performance is over.
- Rule #2 Performances that exceed the time limits in Rule #1 will not be eligible to receive a "Superior" rating.
- Rule #3 A group may range from two (2) to five (5) students.
- Rule #4 Students must supply their own equipment and props.
- Rule #5 Use of slides, tape recorders, computers or other media devices as accompaniment or a supplement to the live performance is permitted. Supplemental visual material must be integral to the performance, and is the responsibility of the student.
- Rule #6 Performances must have a bibliography. Students should refer to Turabian's *A Manual of Style for Writers of Term Papers*, or any other standard form, to determine the correct bibliographic form.
- Rule #7 A "Summary Statement Form" must be submitted to the judges prior to performance.
- Rule #8 Performances must be the creation of the contestants. Additional recorded music, photographs, slides, etc., must be fully credited within the bibliography.
- Rule #9 Contestants will be assigned a time for their performance. Performances are open to the public.
- Rule #10 Contestants should be available in the contest area twenty (20) minutes prior to their performance.

Individual and Group Media Presentation Rules

- Rule #1 A maximum of five (5) minutes is given to set up, a maximum of ten (10) minutes for the presentation, and a maximum of five (5) minutes is given to take down the media.
- Rule #2 Media which exceed the time limits in Rule #1 will not be eligible to receive a "Superior" rating.
- Rule #3 Contestants may be present for the entire 20-minute media presentation. Please be prepared to answer any questions the judges may have. However, formal narratives will not be accepted.
- Rule #4 Contestants will be assigned a time for their media presentation. Media presentations are not open to the public.
- Rule #5 Media presentations include videotape presentations, slide or slide-tape presentations, or an original computer program, etc.
- Rule #6 Media must have a bibliography. Students should refer to Turabian's *A Manual of Style for Writers of Term Papers*, or any other standard form, to determine the correct bibliographic form.

- Rule #7 Professional photographs, slides, recorded music, etc., may be used, but such items must be integrated into the presentation by the student producers and must be fully credited within the bibliography and are the responsibility of the student. Students must narrate all audio portions except, for example, when using an oral history excerpt.
- Rule #8 Added exhibits of visual material are not allowed.
- Rule #9 Live involvement by students is limited to the running/operation of media devices/equipment. Judges must be able to control all media devices if students are not present to do so.
- Rule #10 All media presentations must be accompanied by a "Summary Statement Form."
- Rule #11 VCRs, DVDs and monitors will be provided. Any additional equipment that is required must be provided by the student.
- Rule #12 A group may range from two (2) to five (5) students.
- Rule #13 Media results will be available for the teacher or student immediately after the Illinois History Expo closing ceremony.